

CLAIMS

1 1. (Original) A communications system for servicing customers connected to access
2 points and using an established backhaul transport to an office comprising:
3 one or more environmentally hardened remote digital subscriber line access multiplexers,
4 connecting means for connecting said access multiplexers to said access points,
5 an alternate backhaul transport for connecting said access multiplexers to provide
6 broadband services to said customers.

1 2. (Original) The communications system of Claim 1 wherein said access multiplexers
2 are all-weather hardened for outdoor installation.

1 3. (Original) The communications system of Claim 2 wherein said access multiplexers
2 are located in utility-pole mountable enclosures.

1 4. (Original) The communications system of Claim 1 wherein said access multiplexers
2 include a processor unit, an ATM assembler and disassembler unit and an ATM switch fabric.

1 5. (Original) The communications system of Claim 1 wherein each of said access
2 multiplexers includes a master unit and one or more trunk interface units.

1 6. (Original) The communications system of Claim 5 wherein said master unit is in an
2 all-weather hardened enclosure and said trunk interface units are each in separate all-weather
3 hardened trunk interface enclosures.

1 7. (Original) The communications system of Claim 1 wherein said alternate backhaul
2 transport includes a network of ATM switches.

1 8. (Original) The communications system of Claim 1 wherein said alternate backhaul
2 transport includes,

3 a plurality of ATM switches connected by a plurality of first transports to form a first
4 network,

5 a plurality of second transports connecting said access multiplexers to form a second
6 network,

7 a plurality of third transports connecting said second network to said first network.

1 9. (Original) The communications system of Claim 8 wherein said first transports, said
2 second transports and said third transports are wireless.

1 10. (Original) The communications system of Claim 1 wherein said alternate backhaul
2 transport includes a network of ATM switches supervised by an element manager.

1 11. (Original) The communications system of Claim 1 wherein said alternate backhaul
2 transport includes ATM switches connected by transports in a mesh network.

1 12. (Original) The communications system of Claim 11 wherein said transports are
2 wireless.

1 13. (Original) The communications system of Claim 1 wherein said office is an ILEC
2 central office.

1 14. (Original) The communications system of Claim 1 wherein said alternate backhaul
2 transport connects to a CLEC office.

1 15. (Original) The communications system of Claim 1 wherein said alternate backhaul
2 transport connects to other networks.

1 16. (Original) The communications system of Claim 1 wherein said office is an ILEC
2 central office and said alternate backhaul transport connects to a CLEC office.

1 17. (Original) The communications system of Claim 1 wherein said office is an ILEC
2 central office and said alternate backhaul transport connects to a CLEC office and to said ILEC
3 central office.

1 18. (Original) The communications system of Claim 1 wherein said office is an ILEC
2 central office and said alternate backhaul transport connects to a CLEC office, said ILEC central
3 office and to other networks.

1 19. (Original) The communications system of Claim 18 wherein said other networks
2 include the Internet.

1 20. (Original) A communications system for servicing customers connected to access
2 points and using an established backhaul transport to an office comprising:

3 one or more all-weather environmentally hardened remote digital subscriber line access
4 multiplexers in utility-pole mountable enclosures,

5 connecting means for connecting said access multiplexers to said access points,
6 an alternate backhaul transport for connecting said access multiplexers to provide

7 broadband services to said customers wherein said alternate backhaul transport
8 includes,

9 a plurality of ATM switches connected by a plurality of first wireless
10 transports to form a first mesh network having redundant
11 connections,

12 a plurality of second wireless transports connecting said access
13 multiplexers to form a second mesh network having redundant
14 connections,

15 a plurality of third wireless transports connecting said second network to
16 said first network.

1 21. (Original) The communications system of Claim 20 wherein said office is an ILEC
2 central office and said alternate backhaul transport connects to a CLEC office, said ILEC central
3 office and to other networks.

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